

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action dated March 22, 2005, the Examiner has objected to the disclosure because of the informality of element 50 in FIG. 2 not being described in the specification. By this paper, the specification has been amended to now describe element 50. The Examiner has kindly allowed Claims 1-10 and 13-20, and such allowance is courteously acknowledged.

Claims 11 and 12 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Kromm, Jr. et al. The Examiner contends that the cited reference discloses the method where a metering roller meters release agent from a reservoir and uniformly transfers metered amounts to a fuser roller. However, the Examiner has failed to take into account the fundamental limitation, found in independent Claim 11, and serving as the distinguishing feature of Applicants' invention over the prior art. That is, the prior art fails to anticipate, or in any way teach, the claimed metering of the release agent independent of fuser roller speed. This is an important aspect of Applicants' invention in that it enables different amounts of release agent to be deposited on the fuser roller to accommodate for varying changes in image reproduction parameters, as fully discussed in the Specification on pages 10 through 12 with reference to FIGS. 2 and 4. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claim 11, and Claim 12 dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited reference, or any other prior art known to Applicants. Accordingly, Claims 11 and 12 should now also be allowed.

Applicants are not aware of any additional patents, publications, or other information not previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office which would be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.99.

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This Application is now believed to be in condition for favorable reconsideration and early allowance, and such actions are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment(s)

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